

### STCC launches online giving day to boost scholarships

SPRINGFIELD, MA | **SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE** | June 17, 2019 –Springfield Technical Community College Foundation kicked off a new tradition on June 12 with its first online giving day.

At that time, people had a chance to contribute through “STCC GIVES” and help build scholarships to ensure that students have the support they need to succeed.

“We are grateful for the support we have received over the years from our donors,” said Director of Operations & Donor Relations Kelly Galanis. “Whether you’ve donated in the past or you’re thinking of being a first-time donor, STCC GIVES is a perfect opportunity to help transform the lives of our students.”

Galanis said donors had many options to support students:

- Make a gift online by visiting [bit.ly/stccgives](http://bit.ly/stccgives)
- Text “STCCGives” to 50155
- Call the STCC Foundation at (413) 755-4529
- Drop off cash or checks at the STCC Office of Advancement in Garvey Hall
- Mail a donation to STCC Office of Advancement, One Armory Square, Springfield, MA 01102

Galanis said the goal was to raise money to help the STCC Foundation create scholarships for students. Participants were eligible for prizes, including Red Sox tickets.

Scholarships helped students like Mohamed Gabriel, of West Springfield, an engineering science transfer major who graduated in May. While at STCC, he received several scholarships and was invited to speak to donors at an STCC Foundation event on May 23.

“In my second year, I heard about scholarships. At first I thought, ‘I don’t think I’ll get any.’ But then I thought, ‘Why not try?’ So I did. I went and applied for as many as I could and ended up not getting just one, but six scholarships. I knew I could worry a little less about the financial aspects of school and focus more on academics.”

Another student who graduated in May with a degree in biotechnology, María Ramos, of Agawam, said she would use her \$2,000 scholarship to pay off loans. “It’s amazing,” she said. “This is going to help me out so much.”

Helder Serrazina, of Monson, who is pursuing his degree in business administration, received the Jean and Jim Genasci Honorary Scholarship, which is awarded to LGBT students who demonstrate how they actively serve as a leader or role model and promote the goals of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Serrazina said he was honored to receive the award. After graduating from STCC, he wants to study at the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and dreams of one day earning a law degree from Harvard University.

A total of 57 STCC student scholarship winners were celebrated at the STCC Foundation’s Scholarship & Awards Breakfast.

The STCC Foundation and the college provided \$1.1 million to support students in fiscal 2019.

*Interested in applying to STCC? Visit [stcc.edu/apply](http://stcc.edu/apply) or call Admissions at (413) 755-3333.*

